

**RETAIL VENTURES, INC. REPORTS COMPARABLE STORE SALES INCREASE OF 2.2%  
ON NOVEMBER RETAIL SALES OF \$254.0 MILLION**

Columbus, Ohio --/ December 4/PR Newswire/-- Retail Ventures, Inc. (NYSE:RVI) announced today total sales for the four weeks ended November 29, 2003, increased 6.7% to \$254.0 million from \$238.1 million for the four weeks ended November 30, 2002. The company's same store sales increased 2.2% for the four week period.

Total sales for the forty-three weeks ended November 29, 2003, increased 5.9% to \$2.128 billion from \$2.010 billion for the forty-three weeks ended November 30, 2002. The company's same store sales increased 1.1% for the forty-three week period.

Retail sales statistics are as follows:

	<u>Four weeks ended (\$ in thousands)</u>			
	<u>November 29, 2003</u>		<u>November 30, 2002</u>	
	\$	%	\$	%
<b>Total Sales</b>				
Value City Department Stores	\$160,054	63.0	\$160,636	67.4
DSW Shoe Warehouse	63,507	25.0	50,166	21.1
Filene's Basement	30,448	12.0	27,285	11.5
	<u>\$254,009</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>\$238,087</u>	<u>100.0</u>
<b>Comparable Sales Percentage</b>				
Value City Department Stores		(0.4)%		(10.3)%
DSW Shoe Warehouse		9.5 %		2.6 %
Filene's Basement		6.7 %		(5.3)%
		<u>2.2 %</u>		<u>(7.8)%</u>

	<u>Forty-three weeks ended (\$ in thousands)</u>			
	<u>November 29, 2003</u>		<u>November 30, 2002</u>	
	\$	%	\$	%
<b>Total Sales</b>				
Value City Department Stores	\$1,214,863	57.1	\$1,223,343	60.9
DSW Shoe Warehouse	654,653	30.8	535,168	26.6
Filene's Basement	258,258	12.1	251,548	12.5
	<u>\$2,127,774</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>\$2,010,059</u>	<u>100.0</u>
<b>Comparable Sales Percentage</b>				
Value City Department Stores		(0.4)%		(5.6)%
DSW Shoe Warehouse		4.6 %		0.5 %
Filene's Basement		1.3 %		1.1 %
		<u>1.1 %</u>		<u>(3.6)%</u>

Retail Ventures, Inc. is a leading off-price retailer currently operating 116 Value City Department Stores in the Midwest, mid-Atlantic and southeastern U.S., 21 Filene's Basement Stores in the Northeast and 142 better-branded DSW Shoe Warehouse Stores in major metropolitan areas throughout the country.

SOURCE: Retail Ventures, Inc.

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